

Serial No.: 10/509,113
Attorney's Docket No.: 28955.1038

REMARKS

Claims 1-13, as amended, remain herein. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended. Support for the amendment can be found throughout the specification (see, e.g., Figure 7).

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over May U.S. Patent 5,486,051 in view of Naya et al. U.S. Patent 5,369,847. The Office Action alleges that May discloses the claimed device except for the projected parts but that Naya teaches projected parts integrally projected to inner and outer face sides of the bag body.

Applicants' claim 1 recites a sealing bag with a chuck including a bag body which opens on one side; a chuck having a pair of tapes bonded to the bag body near an opening part of the bag body and opposed to each other along the opening part of the bag body, and a pair of female and male clamping parts formed on the faces of the pair of tapes opposed to each other and disengageably clamping with each other along the opening part of the bag body to openably/closably seal the bag body; and projected parts of said pair of tapes formed in projected lines generally along the edges of the pair of tapes towards the opening part of the bag body, and protruding inwardly and outwardly so that they are functionally accessible from the inner and outer face sides of the bag body, wherein the pair of tapes is bonded to the inside of the opening part in the inner face of the bag body so that the projected parts are positioned inside the opening edge part of the bag body.

May does not teach or suggest the claimed sealing bag. Indeed, as acknowledged in the Office Action, May does not include projected parts protruding inwardly and outwardly so that they are functionally accessible from the inner and outer face sides of the bag body, and positioned inside the opening edge part of the bag body.

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Naya does not teach or suggest what is missing from May. In Naya, the projected parts are not positioned inside the opening edge part of the bag body. In addition, the projected parts in Naya are separately formed on opposite sides of the fastener and are not, as required in claim 1, protruding inwardly and outwardly so that they are functionally accessible from the inner and outer face sides of the bag body. The projected parts of Naya are described in applicants' Figure 12. As explained in applicants' specification:

[I]n the structure in which the plurality of projections are separately formed on the opposite surfaces of the clamping parts as in the sealing bag shown in FIG. 12, there has been a problem that the finger's forces are scattered to the plurality of projections formed on different positions, and are not easily exerted.

See applicants' specification at from page 6, lines 19-25. Applicants' present invention solves this problem by providing the claimed projected parts which protrude inwardly and outwardly so that they are functionally accessible from the inner and outer face sides of the bag body (see applicants' specification from page 6, line 19 to page 8, line 9; and Figure 7).

Thus, none of May, Naya, or anything else in this record discloses or suggests applicants' claimed invention. In addition, there is no disclosure or suggestion in any of May, Naya, or anything else in this record that would have suggested the desirability of combining any portions thereof effectively to anticipate or render obvious applicants' claimed invention. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, applicants respectfully request that all rejections be withdrawn all that all claims 1-13 be allowed. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge or credit any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. Should the Examiner deem that

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any further amendments would be desirable in placing this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to telephone applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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